



Jim Abbott

Associate State Director, Bureau of Land Management California



As Associate State Director for BLM in California, Jim Abbott teams with State Director Mike Pool to oversee management of millions of acres of public lands and resources, with a particular focus on the agency's workforce, systems, and budget.

Abbott, who has served in the position since February 2001, previously served in California in Bakersfield and Palm Springs and says he enjoys the State's diverse population, resource challenges, and opportunities. He and Pool oversee 15.1 million acres of public lands in California and another 1.5 million in northwestern Nevada, a workforce of more than 900 employees spread throughout 16 offices, and an annual budget of more than \$140 million.

Abbott, 51, began his career with BLM in 1976, after earning a degree in recreation management from Colorado State University. His career in BLM has stretched from California to

Washington, D.C. In Washington, he served as national land exchange team leader. Prior to that, he was an associate district manager in Las Vegas, Nevada; field office manager in Bakersfield; assistant field office manager in Palm Springs; and held various staff positions in Colorado and Utah. His professional experiences have been focused in recreation, lands, wilderness management, fire management, and oil and gas.

During his earlier California assignments, he was instrumental in working with local partnerships in what are now the Carrizo Plain National Monument and the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument. His hobbies and interests include camping, mountain biking, cooking, and gardening.

Personal statement: "Working in California and managing the BLM public lands in this diverse and ever-changing natural and political landscape is a tremendous challenge. I see my primary role as helping BLM's talented and professional workforce do the best job possible for the resources and the public."